

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee – March 13, 2009

Chair Bonnie Morris called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Committee Members Present: County Board Supervisors Bonnie Morris (Chair), Jean Tortomasi, John Pledl, Dave Falstad, Peter Wolff (arrived at 8:39 a.m.; left at 9:37 a.m.), and Kathleen Cummings (arrived at 8:42 a.m.), Paul Decker

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn, Legislative Associate Karen Phillips, Senior Financial Analyst Lyndsay Johnson, Director of Emergency Preparedness Richard Tuma, Sheriff Dan Trawicki, Business Manager Tom Koth, and Deputy Inspector Eric Severson.

Approval of Minutes – February 13, 2009

MOTION: Decker moved, second by Tortomasi, to approve the minutes of February 13, 2009, as amended. Motion carried: 5-0.

Correspondence

- Publication: Waukesha Freeman, dated March 3, 2009: “States urged to improve probation, parole programs – 1 of every 39 Wisconsin adults is in corrections”. Krahn stated he has access to the full report. Falstad and Tortomasi requested a copy of the report.

Executive Committee Report of February 16, 2009

Morris reported on the items discussed at the Executive Committee meeting of February 16, 2009:

- Update on Information Technology Projects: eDocument Management, RFP for CAD System, Countywide Cashiering System, Tax System, and PCI Compliance.
- Ordinances (4)
- Chairman Jim Dwyer gave an update on his association with the following organizations:
 - Wisconsin Counties Association
 - Local Government Institute
 - Justice Reinvestment Initiative Oversight Committee
 - Southeastern Regional Planning Commission
- Committee Reports

Reports from Committee Member Liaisons

Morris and Falstad attended the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) Steering Committee meeting on Judicial and Public Safety. They reported on the items discussed, which included a brief discussion of the State budget, a presentation by two Wisconsin district attorneys to garner support for the increase of State funding for the district attorneys offices, and the proposed OWI legislation and related issues.

Wolff arrived at 8:39 a.m.

Future Agenda Items

- Morris stated that Finance Committee Chair Haukohl had asked for the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee to review the medication dispersing procedures for jail inmates with the Sheriff’s Department staff, and advise the Finance Committee when and if this would be discussed. Tortomasi explained this request stemmed from a pending lawsuit involving a medication issue. Morris opined that it would not be appropriate to discuss this issue while litigation is in progress. Krahn concurred, stating that Giese could come in and discuss the

policy but should wait until the litigation is done. Perhaps it could be discussed during budget presentations.

- Update of the WCS Day Reporting Program by Sara Carpenter
- WCTC Aviation Security Program by Brian Dorow

Cummings arrived at 8:42 a.m.

Meeting Approvals

Morris requested approval for the attendance at the WCA Steering Committee meeting on Judicial and Public Safety, which was held in Madison on March 6, 2009.

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Pledl, to approve attendance at the WCA Steering Committee meeting of March 6, 2009. Motion carried: 7-0.

Future Meeting Date

- April 17, 2009

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 163-O-104: Homeland Security-Urban Area Security Initiative FY2007 Program Funding Award And Modify The Emergency Preparedness 2009 Budget To Appropriate Grant Revenues And Expenditures For Radio Reprogramming

Tuma explained this ordinance that requests acceptance of \$29,680 in UASI funding to pay for Waukesha County Radio Services to reprogram radios as part of the countywide interoperability communications plan. Tuma stated that per the grant application, the grant would pay to reprogram 410 radios at an average cost of approximately \$72.00 a radio. However, rather than choosing which radios to reprogram, it was decided to offer the service at a 50% cost reduction to all of the public safety agencies.

To answer Cumming's question, Tuma stated he was not aware of any additional funding that might be available in 2009 for the purpose of reprogramming the radios. Falstad asked whether this would increase the ability to communicate with more people and/or agencies. Tuma stated that it would increase talk capabilities with people outside of the County; it would enable anyone on an 800 trunked radio system to intercommunicate when in this area. Falstad also questioned why the ordinance emphasizes only acts of terrorism as the reason for the funding. Tuma explained that the UASI funds focus on potential terrorist threats, even though many things done are also useful for other types of significant events, including natural and manmade disasters. Pledl asked about how many radios need reprogramming. Tuma stated that there are about 5,000 radios in total. He said that by cutting the cost by about 50%, they would charge \$34.50 per radio. This way everyone benefits from this funding. Tuma stated that the Radio Services could accommodate this endeavor, as their budget has been supplemented by doing outside work such as radio maintenance service for the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department. Tortomasi asked if there is a timeframe for completion of the reprogramming all of the radios. Tuma stated that it must be done in 2009; it is being done in conjunction with the Sprint-Nextel rebanding project.

Pledl moved, second by Decker, to approve Ordinance 163-O-104. Motion carried: 7-0.

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 163-O-105: Accept 2009 Joint Federal Justice Assistance Grant And Modify Waukesha County Sheriff Department's 2009 Budget To Authorize Grant Expenditures

Trawicki and Severson reviewed this ordinance to authorize the acceptance of Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$9,519. They explained that funds would be used for the purchase of additional equipment to allow completion of a State grant for audio/visual equipment at the Justice Center and the Sussex substation; provide matching funds for five years maintenance on equipment to be used by the Computer Forensics Unit to enable analysis of cell phone computer records (under a separate grant currently being applied for); approximately 50 replacement batteries for hand-held radios; a replacement fax machine; and computer software to increase efficiency by issuing checks using a computer instead of a typewriter.

MOTION: Cummings moved, second by Falstad, to approve Ordinance 163-O-105.
Motion carried: 7-0

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 163-O-106: Accept 2009 Wisconsin Office Of Justice Assistance Custodial Interrogations Grant Award And Modify Waukesha County Sheriff Department's 2009 Budget To Authorize Grant Expenditures

Trawicki reviewed this ordinance that would authorize the acceptance of an Office of Justice Assistance Custodial Interrogations Grant in the amount up to a maximum of \$9,150. This award would be used to upgrade digital audio and video recording capabilities of interview rooms in the Justice Center and at the Sussex substation. These upgrades would make Waukesha County compliant with State law that mandates law enforcement agencies to electronically record juvenile interrogations, adult interrogations on felony cases, and encourages the recording of all adult interviews.

MOTION: Wolff moved, second by Tortomasi, to approve Ordinance 163-O-106.
Motion carried: 7-0

Following the discussion of the agenda items, Trawicki answered some general questions raised by Committee members concerning the Sheriff's Department, including Huber and Jail operations.

Legislative Update

Krahn gave an overview of the proposed State budget and reviewed particular items pertinent to the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee. He said that the Governor's budget includes a \$2.5 million cut in Health and Human Services and a 1% cut in Probation and Parole. The Governor feels that one way to reduce the State's costs is to release certain prisoners who do not necessarily belong in prison. The Parole Commission will now be known as the Earned Release Review Commission. The Courts budgets will be cut by 1% and the GAL (Guardian Ad Litem), State Public Defenders and District Attorney's budgets will also be cut. The governor is also proposing to decriminalize some OARs. Krahn explained how the property tax payers would ultimately bear the burden of these budget cuts.

Krahn stated that the State budget is now being reviewed by the sixteen-member Joint Finance Committee (twelve democrats and four republicans). Krahn said statewide public hearings would begin later this month, with a local hearing to be held at State Fair Park on March 25th.

Wolff left at 9:37 a.m.

Krahn said that the 9-1-1 issue is still very much alive, and if not included in the budget, would be a separate bill. He also reviewed the OAR and OWI issues that are also the subjects of proposed legislation. With regard to the President's stimulus package, Krahn advised that at this point it is still a work in progress.

MOTION: Pledl moved, second by Decker, to adjourn at 9:45 a.m. Motion carried: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Cummings
Secretary